

Serial No.: 09/556,280

-2-

Art Unit: 2877

an excitation light source adapted to emit light substantially at the at least one predetermined excitation wavelength;

C1 cont.
a detector adapted to detect light emission or absorption of the at least one light-sensitive compound in the mark at the at least one emission or absorption wavelength after the light-sensitive compound has been excited with light from the excitation light source, the detector providing data representative of the detected light emission or absorption of the light-sensitive compound in the mark;

a processor cooperating with at least the detector, the processor processing the data, comparing the data to a standard and rendering a result based on the comparison; and

a display adapted to display at least the result.

150. (New) The device of claim 149, further comprising a storage medium adapted to store at least one of the data representative of the detected emission or absorption of the light-sensitive compound in the mark and the standard.

151. (New) The device of claim 150, wherein the storage medium comprises a storage medium capable of storing the data in a digital format.

152. (New) The device of claim 150, wherein the storage medium comprises film.

153. (New) The device of claim 150, further comprising at least one of a date and time stamp stored in the storage medium, the at least one of the date and time stamp representing a corresponding at least one of a date and time stamp when the device captured the mark.

154. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the excitation light source comprises a flash.

Serial No.: 09/556,280

-3-

Art Unit: 2877

155. (New) The device of claim 149, further comprising a filter disposed within a light path of the excitation light source.

156. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the excitation light source is interchangeable such that an excitation light source may be selected based upon the light-sensitive compound within the mark.

01 cont.
157. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the at least one light-sensitive compound, when irradiated with light, emits or absorbs light at a second wavelength, wherein the detector detects an emission or absorption intensity at the first wavelength and an emission or absorption intensity at the second wavelength after the mark has been irradiated and wherein the data comprises a ratio of the first intensity to the second intensity or a ratio of the first wavelength to the second wavelength.

158. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the excitation light source comprises at least one light-emitting diode.

159. (New) The device of claim 156, wherein the excitation light source comprises at least one light-emitting diode.

160. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the substrate is a product package having a product, wherein the data includes information regarding at least one of a place of origin of the product, a time of origin of the product, a date of origin of the product, and an intended market of the product.

161. (New) The device of claim 156, the substrate is a product package having a product, wherein the data includes information regarding at least one of a place of origin of the product, a time of origin of the product, a date of origin of the product, and an intended market of the product.

Serial No.: 09/556,280

-4-

Art Unit: 2877

162. (New) The device of claim 149, in combination with the light-sensitive compound.
163. (New) The device of claim 149, in combination with the substrate.
164. (New) The device of claim 162, in combination with the substrate.
165. (New) The device of claim 149, further comprising a battery adapted to power the device.
166. (New) The device of claim 165, further comprising a battery meter.
167. (New) The device of claim 162, wherein the light-sensitive compound emits or absorbs light in the IR range.
168. (New) The device of claim 149, wherein the detected emission or absorption is detected through a single optical path.
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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed November 1, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Claims 12-23 have been examined. In the response dated March 3, 2003, Applicants have canceled claims 1-11 and 24-85, without prejudice or disclaimer, amended claims 12, 18 and 22 and added new claims 86-148. By this Supplemental Amendment, Applicants are adding claims 149-168. As a result claims, 12-23 and 86-168 are pending with claims 12, 90, 108, 125 and 149 being independent claims. All claims are drawn to the elected group. No new matter has been added.